

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No: To Be Assigned
Applicant: Peter-Michael MERBACH et al.
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Examiner: To Be Assigned
Docket No. 5040.1002

Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 23, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants request that the following Amendments be made in the above-identified matter prior to examination thereof:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.